# TO UTILIZE THE COUNTRY'S RIVERS

Appointment of a Commission by the President.

MOVING NATION'S PRODUCTS

The Railways Are Found to Be Inadequate.

STREAMS TO BE EMPLOYED

Comprehensive Plan for Their Improvement for the Benefit of All the People Desired.

Complying with petitions presented by numerous commercial organizations of the Mississippi vallev. President Roosevelt has decided to appoint an inland waterways commission, whose duty it will be to prepare and report a comprehen-United States. Eight public men commission, and Representative Theodore E. Burton of Ohio, chairman of the rivers and harbors committee in the last Congress, is to be chairman of the commission.

In a letter which he has addressed to each of these persons, the President sets out that he is influenced in creating the commission by broad considerations of national policy; that the railroads are no longer able to move crops and manufactures rapidly enough to secure the prompt transaction of the business of the nation and that there appears to be but one com-plete remedy, the development of a com-plementary system of transportation by

The President's Letter. The President's letter in full is as fol

"THE WHITE HOUSE,

"WASHINGTON, March 14, 1907. "My Dear Sir: Numerous commercial organizations of the Mississippi valley have presented petitions asking that I appoint a ommission to prepare and report a comprehensive plan for the improvement and control of the river systems of the United States. I have decided to comply with these requests by appointing an inland waterways commission, and I have asked the following gentlemen to act upon it. I shall be much gratified if you will consent Theodore E. Burton, chairman; Senator Francis G. Newlands, Senator Willlam Warner, Mr. John H. Bankhead, Gen. Alexander Mackenzie, Dr. W. J. McGee, Mr. F. H. Newell, Mr. Gifford Pinchot and

### Time to Consider the Streams.

fluenced by broad considerations of the national policy. The control of our navigable waterways lies with the federal government, and carries with it corresponding responsibilities and obligations. The energy of our people has hitherto been largely directed toward industrial development connected with field and forest and with coal and iron, and some of these sources of material and power are already largely depleted, while our inland waterways whole have thus far received scant attention. It is becoming clear that our streams should be considered and conserved as great natural resources. Works designed to control our waterways have thus far usually been undertaken for a single pur-pose, such as the improvement of navigation, the development of power, the irrigation of arid lands, the protection of lowlands from floods, or to supply water for domestic and manufacturing purposes. While the rights of the people to those spected, the time has come for merging ocal projects and uses of the inland waters in a comprehensive plan designed for the benefit of the entire country. Such a plan should consider and include all the uses to which streams may be put, and should bring together and co-ordinate the points of view of all users of water. The nvolved in the full and orderly development and control of the river systems of the United States is a great one, yet it is certainly not too great for us to approach. The results which it seems to promise are even greater.

# Railways Inadequate.

"It is common knowledge that the railroads of the United States are no longer able to move crops and manufactures rapidly enough to secure the prompt transaction of the business of the nation, and there is small prospect of immediate relief. Representative railroad men point out that he products of the nothern interior states have doubled in ten years, while the rail-road facilities have increased but oneeighth, and there is reason to doubt whether any development of the railroads possible in the near future will suffice to keep transportation abreast of production. There appears to be but one complete remedy-the levelopment of a complementary system of ransportation by water. The present con gestion affects chiefly the people of the Mississippi valley, and they demand relief. When the congestion of which they com-plain is relieved the whole nation will snare the good results.

# Loss Caused by Flood.

"While rivers are natural resources of the first rank, they are also liable to become destructive agencies, endangering life and property, and some of our most notable engineering enterprises have grown out of efforts to control them. It was computed by Generals Humphrey and Abbot half a century ago that the Mississippi alone sweeps into its lower branches and the gulf 400,000,000 tons of floating sediment each year (about twice the amount of material to be excavated in opening the Panama canal), besides an enormous but unmeasured amount of earth salts and soil material carried in solution. This vast load not only causes its channels to clog and flood the low lands of the lower river, but renders the flow capricious and difficult to control. Furthermore, the greater part of the sediment and soil matter is composed of the most fertile material of the fields and pastures drained by the smaller and larger tributaries. Any plan for utilizing our minant waterways bound our inland waterways should consider floods and their control by forests and other means, the protection of bottom from injury by overflows and uplands from loss by soil wash, the physica of sediment-charged waters and the physical or other ways of purifying them, the construction of dams and locks, not only to facilitate navigation, but to control the character and evement of the waters, and should look to the full use and control of our running waters and the complete artificialization of our waterways for the benefit of our people

Questions to Be Considered.

"it is not possible properly to frame so large a plan as this for the control of our rivers without taking account of the orderiy development of other natural resources. Therefore, I ask that the inland waterways commission shall consider the relations of the streams to the use of all the great natural resources and their conservation for the making and maintainance of prosperous

homes.
"Any plan for utilizing our inland water-ways, to be feasible, should recognize the

both in the federal Departments of War, Interior, Agriculture and Commerce and Labor, and in the states and their subdivisions; and it must not involve unduly burions; and it must not involve unduly burdensome expenditures from the national
treasury. The cost will necessarily be large
in proportion to the magnitude of the benefits to be conferred, but it will be small in
comparison with the \$17,000,000,000 of capital now invested in steam railways in the
United States—an amount that would have
seemed enormous and incredible half a century ago. Yet the investment has been a
constant source of profit to the people and constant source of profit to the people and without it our industrial progress would

have been impossible.
"The questions which will come before the inland waterways commission mus necessarily relate to every part of the United States and affect every interest within its borders. Its plan should be considered in the light of the widest knowledge of the country and its people, and from the most diverse points of view. Ac-cordingly, when its work is sufficiently ad-vanced, I shall add to the commission certain consulting members with whom I shall ask that its recommendations shall be fully discussed before they are submitted to me The reports of the commission should in clude both a general statement of the prob lem and recommendations as to the manne and means of attacking it.

"Sincerely yours, "THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

Personnel of the Commission. Mr. Bankhead has just finished his tenth ferm in Congress from Alabama. Gen Mackinzle is chief of engineers of the army. Mr. Newell is director of the United States reclamation service. Mr. Pinchot is chief forester of the United States. Herbert Knox Smith is commissioner of corpor ations. W J McGee is an anthropologist and geologist, formerly in charge of the bureau of American ethnology and formerly president of the National Geographic So-ciety.

## Persia's New Shah.

From Current Literature. The new Shah is now about thirty-five but his accession to the throne is an an omaly in that his mother did not belong to sive plan for the improvement and the Kajar dynasty. It has been maintained control of the river system of the by the mullahs that only the son of a Kajar princess could become shah. They have decided, however, that Mohamed Ali Mirza is have been asked to serve on the a Kajar because his father was. The new shah received what is termed a European education. He speaks French fluently. His knowledge of English is elementary. His Persian tutors were innumerable in the days when he was Vali Ahd, or crown prince, and resided at Tabriz in a palace noted for the beauty of its gardens. Much was made of the faith in the present shah's training. Mohammedanism is, of course, the religion of the land today. But Persia adheres to that sect within the faith known as Shiite. The new shah, consequently, regards Ali, first cousin and son-in-law of Mohamed, as the true successor of the prophet. This sets the Persian shah in opposition to the Turk-ish sultan, upholder of the Sunnite sect of Islam. The Mohammedan world is thus rent by schism. But when he was merely Vali Ahd, the new shah was suspected of Indoc trination with the heresles of Babism. The public square outside his palace at Tabriz scene of the execution of the Bab some half a century ago. By a coincidence that has been deemed ominous, the Bab's three names were the same as those of the new shah. His majesty the king of kings and light of the world is called Mohamed

## Legislators With the Popcorn Habit.

The Bab had for his real name

Ali Mirza.

Mirza Ali Mohamed.

Suthrie Cor. Kansas City Star Visitors to the constitutional convention are surprised at the amount of popcorn, apples and hamburger sandwiches consumed by the delegates. Across the street from the convention hall are stands where these eatables are sold. Pages bring armfuls of packages of popcorn into the convention chamber and the purchasers distribute the contents of the packages liberally on the desks of their neighbors. The savor of the crisp kernels incites the hunger of other members and the pages disappear to return

owners of the street stands enjoy much larger profit from their sales to the members of the convention than any of the delegates receive in salaries. The popcorn habit seems peculiar to this convention None of the territorial legislatures in the last ten or twelve years discovered the virtue of this cereal, and a sack of popcorn was rarely seen on the desks of the legis-

### Advertising in Japan. Harold Roice in Appleton's

Europe is beginning to follow in the steps of Japan as an advertiser, and the sunrise kingdom got its billboard ideas from Worshipers at Buddhist temples invaria

bly wash their hands in a fountain at the entrance before making their supplications. Formerly the priests hung towels there Now the merchants of Tokio and other cities furnish the temples with free towels reserving the privilege of printing their advertisements on them.

# Properties of Gold.

From the Jewelers' Circular Weekly, Pure gold is unaffected by the atmosphere either at ordinary temperatures or when the metal is heated. It is also proof against the action of common acids when used singly.

Moreover, it confers its properties more or less upon copper and silver when these metals are alloyed with it. Thus, for example, twelve karat gold will withstand the action of nitric acid and the atmosphere at ordinary temperature, but some of the copper will be oxidized during annealing. Nine parts of gold may be alloyed with ten parts platinum in an ordinary crucible and fire, but such an alloy will not be uniform a larger proportion of platinum will free itself from the gold on solidification and a homogeneous alloy of the two metals cannot be obtained.

### Eagles Raid Barnyards. Wapakoneta Cor. Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The bald eagle, which is fast disappearing, still has its haunts in the vicinity of the St. Mary's reservoir, especially in Mercer county. With no food at hand the eagles have become feroclous through hunger, and are raiding the farm yards, carrying off pigeons, chickens and sheep. Mrs. Calvin Yaney, a farmer's wife, saw

one of the huge birds alight in the chicken yard and select one of the fattest fowls on the roost. She tried to chase away the rob ber, but the eagle would not be scared until he had secured his meal. A farmer reports that an eagle with

spread of six feet from wing to wing swooped down and carried off one of his sheep. The farmer folks around the reservoir are beginning to regard the kingly bird as something to be dreaded rather than revered.

# Old-Time Powder Horn.

Martinsville Cor. Indianapolis News.

W. B. Tarleton of this city, formerly of Maysville, Ky., has in his possession a powder horn that is a relic of the revolutionary war. He received ft from his grandfather, John Baker, and it has been in the family for two generations.

my country's sake," and in larger letters, "Evil to him that evil thinks." From end to end there is delineated the Miami river and its islands and the crossing of Indian creek in Kentucky. Along one side of the river is the plan of the British camp, with the sites of the flour house, the powder magazines, both above and underground, and the stands of the general battery of six guns and of three other batteries of

Across the river the American camp, with the landing of Col. Boswell, commander, is sketched in detail. To the right of the landsketched in detail. To the right of the landing, designated as that of Col. Dudley of the British army, is the outline of a fort with flag flying, but the name is not given. The name, "James W. Waddell, Tenth R. K. M., June 3, 1813," is engraved in large each overcoat pocket and his hands graspletters on the lower part of the horn, and ing the two big potatoes, piping hot, wrap the words "Battle ground," stand out in ped in slik handkerchiefs, for this purpose bold relief. When the horn is submerged in water the work comes out clear, with the exception of a few words where the horn has been grasped often when in use.

"They will keep your hands warm for hours unless you happen to sit on exception of a few words where the horn has been grasped often when in use."

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# REMARKABLE FIRE AT WHEELING, W. VA.

**Burned District Entirely Sur**rounded by Water.

18 PERSONS WERE DROWNED

Frightful Scenes During Burning of Pottery Plant.

EXPLOSION TERRIFIES PEOPLE

Thirteen Met Death by Jumping From the Windows of Their Homes Into the Flood.

WHEELING, W. Va., March 16.-Eighteen persons are known to have lost their lives in the early morning fire that occurred to day at the plant of the Warwick Pottery Company, which is located in the flooded district.

The following is a partial list of those who were drowned. Mike Bretries, aged thirty, storekeeper;

ody recovered Rosa Bertas, aged twenty-two, single body recovered Elias Mitchell, aged eighteen months

body recovered. Allen Bertas, aged two years; body re covered. Frank Holmes, watchman at the pottery;

body recovered. Simon Elias, proprietor of dry goods store Julia Moses, aged seven years. Walder Moses, aged four years, brother of Julia Moses

Charles Matthews, watchman at the Wheeling Stamping Company. Because of the water surrounding the burned district it was impossible for the fire apparatus to reach the scene. The firemen pressed into service all the boats that

could be secured and carried the lines of hose to the burning building by this means. They did heroic work and not only fought the fire but assisted in rescuing many per-All the police that could be spared were

rushed to the scene to assist in the work of The crew of a boat that was moored the river from the building manned a yawl and rescued about one hundred per-

The men were offered all kinds of rewards and big sums of money for the work they had done, but they refused to accept a cent. At times the big yawl was filled to overflowing and it was with difficulty that the rivermen prevented the frantic Syrians from upsetting the craft.

### Screams for Help.

During the progress of the fire the scene was most frightful. The screams for help of those in the building could be heard as far as the steel bridge, a mile north, where thousands of persons, unable to lend any

assistance, watched the blaze. The work of rescuing the bodies of those who were drowned has been going on all day. The current has been very swift, and ion is that more bodies will be vered when the flood subsides.

Had the drowned persons remained in their homes none of them would have met death. The buildings occupied by the unfortunate victims were not touched by the flames. The explosion that started the fire is what terrified the people living in the vicinity.

Five Drowned by Upsetting of Boat. No sooner had the report of the explosion occurred than people commenced leaping from the windows into the water. Not all of those who met death were drowned by jumping into the water. Five of them were drowned by the upsetting of a boat that was carrying them to a place of safety.

The majority of the persons living in the vicinity of the wholesale drowning are Syrians, and after the fire they refused to return to their homes. They are being taken care of in the city hall and county jail. There is scarcely a family that did not lose a member, and the survivors are frantic. A meeting of the board of trade was held this afternoon, and full arrangements were made for succoring the flood

# Old Indian Armlets.

From the Jewelers' Circular-Weekly. In a jeweler's store at Eufala, I. T., there were recently exhibited two armlets made

of metal and of the pattern worn extensively by the Indians a century ago. The armlets were found in an old Indian burying ground on the banks of a creek twentytwo miles west of Eufaula. Evidently they had clasped the arms of some Indian brave who had been buried there, and the sands had drifted away, leaving the armlets exposed long after the remains of the Indian nad passed to dust.

The armlets are of the pattern that were

ernment in the early days. Each of the ernment, and there are in the shield fifteen tars, indicating that at the time they were there there were fifteen states in the Union

# Early-Rising Hotel Guests.

From the Detroit Free Press. "Hotel guests, as a rule, are early risers," said Bob Johnson, clerk at the Griswold, the other evening, "And to prove it I can show you the call sheet. You will notice that there are more 7 and 7:30 calls than any other. Beginning at 4 o'clock, which is seldom used, the call sheet is ruled down to 10. About 5:30 the sheet shows a few o'clock the increase is rapid. After 7 the or two there is hardly ever a mark. later than 9:30 we always send a pitcher of if the guest asks to be allowed to sleep until 11 it is usually safe to have the boy take up a 'bracer' also."

# Trees a Buried Treasure.

From the London Chroniele. Piratic hoards of Spanish doubloons ar not the only buried wealth one may seek with spade and pick. A wonderful relic of the past has just been brought to light in Peterborough, England, in the discovery of a buried forest.

At a depth of seven feet have been found At the opening of the horn, where the powder was poured out, in tiny letters are engraved the lines: "Don't tread on me for and are being sold to furniture manufac-Altogether about eighty trees have been

raised, and hundreds more are left in the ground untouched at a depth of five or six feet. In nearly all the trees the roots are found attached. The wood is extremely hard, and can be worked only by machinery, as it turns the edge of an ax.

### Hot Potatoes as Hand Warmers. From the Philadelphia Record.

Dr. Herbert Claiborne of New York, suffers from cold hands in winter. And nothing will warm his fingers except hot water. a hot fire or a hot potato. He can be seen almost any frosty morning marching along at five miles an hour with a hot potato in

67 MINERS KILLED AND 12 DAN-GEROUSLY WOUNDED.

FORBACH, Germany, March 16 .- An explosion of firedamp occurred in the coal mine at Kleinrossein, near here, last night. As the work of rescue progressed it was seen that the disaster was more serious than the first reports indicated. Up to a late hour tonight sixty-seven dead men and twelve men dangerously wounded had been brought to the surface, while forty men still

All the missing have been given up as dead, as they undoubtedly were buried under falling wreckage. Of the wounded two have died, and the doctors think that only one of the remaining ten will recover. The De Wendel Brothers have given \$25. 000 to relieve the immediate necessities of the afflicted families.

## OCEAN STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

NEW YORK, March 16.-Arrived: Steam er Virginia, Naples. Sailed: Steamers Deutschland, Hamburg via Plymouth and Cherbourg; Carmania, Liverpool via Queenstown; New York, Southampton via Plymouth and Cherbourg; Neckar, Naples; Smolensk, Rotterdam and

MANCHESTER, March 15 .- Arrived Steamer Caledonia, Boston

LIVERPOOL, March 16.-Arrived: Steamer Lucania, New York via Queenstown HAVRE, March 15-10 p.m.-Arrived Steamer La Bretagne, New York.

BOULOGNE, March 16-2 a.m.-Arrived Steamer Ryndam, New York for Rotterdam BREMEN, March 14 .- Sailed: Steamer

Hanover, Galveston PALERMO, March '14 .- Sailed: Steamer Neapolitan Prince (from Naples, etc.), New

NAPLES. March 16 .- Sailed: Steame Brasile. New York. HAVRE, March 16-11 a.m.-Sailed Steamer La Provence, New York.

LIVERPOOL, March 16.-Sailed: Steamer Etruria, New York via Queenstown. HAVRE, March 14.-Arrived; Steame

Louisane. New Orleans. REVAL, March 15.—Arrived previously Steamer Petersburg, New York via Rotter

NAPLES, March 13 .- Sailed: Steame Roma, New York. NEW CASTLE, N. S. W., March 14. Sailed: Steamer St. Helena, San Francisco

SOUTHAMPTON, March 16.—Sailed: Steamer Philadelphia, New York via Cherbourg. BROWHEAD, March 16.-Steamer Kai

serin Auguste Victoria, New York for Plymouth, Cherbourg and Hamburg, 170 miles southwest at 2 p.m.; will probably reach Plymouth about noon Sunday.

ROTTERDAM, March 16-6 p.m.-Arrived: Steamer Ryndam, New York via Bou logne. ANTWERP, March 16-1 p.m.-Sailed

Steamer Zeeland, New York via Dover. ROTTERDAM, March 16-2 p.m.-Sailed: Steamer Noordam, New York via Bou-

CHERBOURG. March 16-6:30 p.m.-Sailed: Steamer Philadelphia (from Southampton), New York.

# Imprisoned by Snow.

From the London Globe. One of the most remarkable instances ulation comes from the Perpignan region and it is said if these instructions are carof France. Round about the mountain village of Hospitalet, in the Ariege department and in the village itself, snow lies to a depth of more than eighteen feet. Avalanches are falling, and more are feared. cattle perish in their stalls. The inhabi-

The place is cut off for the winter and tants are, of course, virtually prisoners in their own houses, which they only leave under the imperious necessity of getting To reach the village well they have a tunnel cut under the snow to the well.

### Bootleggers' Scheme. Muskogee Cor. Kansas City Journal.

The bootlegger usually gets his share of the blame in Indian Territory, but now he is accused of being in part responsible for congestion of trains on various lines. The bootlegger may appear to be ignorant, but as a rule he is full of schemes and plans. Since the airbrake has been applied to freight cars he, while riding the rods, takes advantage of the opportunity afforded and stops the train where he pleases.

The man with a quantity of whisky does not care to take chances on losing his liquor by riding clear into town, where he expects to reap a good profit from the sale manipulation are able to hold fast. h.verof the stuff. Consequently he uses the air-brake for the purpose for which it was originally intended. When the train comes to a standstill he, or they, as the case may be sets were pulled off the bank today by towto a standstill he, or they, as the case may sels were pulled off the bank today by tow-be, alight quickly and make for cover. This practice is usually resorted to at night-time, and the bootlegger has a sure thing on a good getaway. In cases where the train is stopped on a grade it is sometimes half an hour before heavy trains can be moved.

### Cowboy Was a Woman. Beliefourche Cor. St. Paul Pioneer Press.

The sensational discovery has just been made that one of the most skillful young cow punchers in the northwest is a woman She wore male attire, close-cropped hair, and her skin was tanned by the sun and wind till it looked like saddle leather. She had punched cows all the way from Texas to Montana without her sex being discov

She went under the name of Jim Footner but when her sex was accidentally discov Bellefourche region, she acknowledged that her real name is Hattle Wallace, and that her parents formerly lived in the copper regions of northern Michigan. After the disclosure made here the gir left, saying that she would go where she was unknown and continue her life as a cowboy, which she dearly loved.

# Bomb in a Letter.

From Tid-Bits. So expert are bomb makers nowadays that an apparently harmless letter may kill any person who tries to open it. A piece of cardboard is cut to a size which, when folded over, will fit into an ordinary envelope. The four corners of this are slit into narrow strips. Fulminate of mercur

into narrow strips. Fulminate of mercury is spread over three of the slits and the sheet is folded and fastened together.

Projecting from each side of the folded sheet is a little metal strip, or detonator, glued to the cardboard in such a manner that the envelope cannot be opened without striking one of them. Upon meeting this slight resistance the hand moving the paper cutter instinctively pushes harder, and the cutter instinctively pushes harder, and the result is an explosion that either kills or

### Surprises for Royalty. From the London Evening Standard.

There is always a trifle of risk attaching to private movements of royalty, for public bodies are apt to spring surprises. At the eleventh hour an address of wel come was presented by a corporation to the Prince of Wales upon his return from his Ophir tour. The prince, who does not make public speeches without advice, had no reply ready, and had to intimate that

the answer to the aduress would be for warded.
When the Empress of Austria arrived for one of her hunting expeditions, some well meaning admirers placed in her saloon large sweet-smelling bouquet. The empress attendant had it removed immediately he saw it. While appreciating the good intentions which had animated the givers, he intimated that the august traveler could

# GERMAN MINE HORROR FLOOD MOVES SOUTH

Threatening Situation on the Lower Ohio.

MARIETTA HIT VERY HARD

Crest of the Wave Not Yet Cincinnati.

LEVEES FAIL AT PORTSMOUTH

Merchants and Manufacturers Are Heavy Losers-Fuel in Great Demand-Entire Family Drowned.

PITTSBURG, Pa., March 10.-After two days of business stagnation, caused by a remarkably rapid rise in the Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio rivers, which inundated over ten square miles of this city, conditions have about assumed their normal trend and by Monday, at least, a complete resumption will be possible.

The water is receding even more quickly than it rose. With the exception of lowlands below the city, the water has subsided to its natural course. Since afternoon the water has fallen three feet and by tomorrow a stage of a little over ten feet is calculated.

Tonight the task of cleaning up the streets in the downtown district was completed. Large forces of men are clearing the interiors of buildings and repairing them for resumption of business Monday

Throughout the Pittsburg district and western Pennsylvania similar work has been under way for the past twenty-four hours, and the completion of the work is

now in sight. Several mills and manufacturing establishments began operations tonight and an endeavor will be made to make up for the time lost. Within two or three days it is thought all the mills will have resumed.

Loss is in Millions. The loss in the Pittsburg district is esimated at \$10,000,000. Reports from upriver points increase the damage done by the flood in western Pennsylvania at least \$5,000,000 more.

The exact number of fatalities caused by the high water has not yet been ascertained. A score of persons are known to have met death in the flood, but today additional reports of many deaths were received by the coroner from surrounding towns. However, the reports have not as

yet been verified. The work of relief in Pittsburg, Allegheny and McKeesport is being carried on in excellent shape. The council of McKeesport appropriated \$2,500 to take care of the flood victims of that city, and this amount was greatly increased by private subscribers. In Pittsburg and Allegheny the charitles departments are caring for the suf-

The health authorities are taking every precaution to prevent an epidemic of sick-

### ried out an epidemic is impossible. Car Service Resuming.

The department of building inspection is making a thorough investigation of the buildings which were submerged by water. It is believed that many of the old structures were weakened by the pressure of the large volume of water. Today a two-story dwelling in Allegheny collapsed. No one was injured. The probabilities are that other buildings will collapse.

Electric light plants were repaired today and after two days of darkness street lamps were lighted tonight. The street car service is almost in full operation, with the assurance that a complete resumption will be possible by Mon-

day. The filtration plant, Pittsburg's new water works now under construction at Aspinwall a suburb, valued at several millions of dol-lars, is now said to have escaped damage. It was believed the plant had been seriously

Despite the fact that their property was in the direct path of the flood, river interests have suffered less than any other class of business. This is accounted for by the rivermen being always prepared for a flo

River interests claim that their losses are not heavy, although a careful accounting will be necessary to accurately judge.

Coal shipments will be made tomorrow when several big tows of coal will start south. There were about 10,000,000 bushels of coal in the harbor during the flood, but

### no losses are reported. Situation Down Stream. The flood situation in southern Ohio is

still serious tonight, with the Ohio river rising. The crest of the flood will probably reach Cincinnati on Monday at sixty-three Up the river the situation is even more serious. This is especially true at Marietta

and Portsmouth, where the crest of the flood is passing.

At Marietta two-thirds of the city is flooded and there is considerable suffering among-the inhabitants. The people are in dire distress, as nearly all of the groceries in the town have been flooded. Flour is de-

livered to the people on the hill, who are baking bread for those who have been driven from their homes. At Portsmouth two levees broke, letting the water encroach on territory not hereto-fore flooded. Two other levees have been weakened by the water seeping through, and may also go. Only one is considered safe—that in the east end of the city. The breaking of these levees has compelled hundreds of people to vacate their homes and paralyzed manufac-

turing concerns. Factories Are Closing. All points south of Parkersburg report continued rising, Point Pleasant being thirteen feet above flood stage. Forecaster

Bassler today said: "There will be five feet or more additional water at Cincinnati on Sunday, making about sixty-three feet by Sunday after

"The river will continue rising until Monday or possibly Tuesday."

Flood conditions begin to be felt more severely. An increasing number of factories were forced to close down this after noon, as the flood reached the furnaces Commission and other business houses on Water street and the river ends of the north and south thoroughfares were forced to abandon their store rooms. Navigation on the river closed during the night, the water being too high to permit passage under any bridges.

### Deaths at Marietta. MARIETTA, Ohlo, March 16-The Ohlo

river reached 50.5 feet today and kept about stationary, having previously raised half an inch per hour for several hours. The Muskingum is falling.

losers. Two-thirds of the city is under water. The flooded district is entirely with-out gas, and fuel is in great demand.

Portsmouth is Threatened. PORTSMOUTH, Ohio, March 16 .- The Scioto river has now entered the city from two directions, and also threatens to break over the weakened levee in the north end Dams that were thrown up to keep the Ohio from uniting with the Scioto in the west end of the city have begun to give away. Business is almost at a standstill and street car traffic is crippled.

Rising in West Virginia. HUNTINGTON, W. Va., March 16 .- The river stage this afternoon was fifty-six feet and rising at the rate of two inches an hour. The residence districts in the eastern and western portion of the city are under water, and many people have been driven from their homes. Many in-dustrial plants have closed down.

### COVERED WITH WRECKAGE. Highest Flood Seen in Ohio Valley

for Twenty Years. WHEELING, W. Va., March 16.-The waters of the highest flood this section of the Ohio valley has seen for twenty years are receding tonight, leaving Wheeling covered with wreckage. The debris is so great in some sections of the city that it will be days after the water goes down before the streets can be used.

The flood was higher than anticipated, and, as a result, much damage was done It is estimated that the damage sustained in Wheeling alone will be over \$3,000,000. So great has the damage been to local industrial plants that it will be weeks before they will be able to resume operations. There is a great deal of suffering, and prompt steps have been taken to alleviate this. At a meeting of the board of trade this afternoon arrangements were made to secure subscriptions, and already there has been a ready response. The situation has become such that it has been found necesswear in a large number of extra police.

Normal Conditions Restored. EAST LIVERPOOL, Ohio, March 16 .- Af ter being shut off from the world for two days on account of the flood something like normal conditions were restored both here and at Wellsville late today. The first mail train to enter the city during the flood came in this afternoon, and tonight electric light, street car and telephone service was resumed.

Some of the factories will be able to start Monday. It is estimated that the total damage by the flood here and at Wellsville will be several hundred thousand dollars.

HOTEL'S STRANGE PLIGHT.

Marine Diver Employed to Turn on

Water Supply. special Dispatch to The Star PITTSBURG, Pa., March 16 .- The Hotel Anderson, in the heart of the down-town section ravaged by the record-breaking floods of this week, resumed business today, after the services of a marine diver had been brought into play to turn on the water supply in the hotel. The waters from the rivers stood twelve feet deep in the basement, and the suddenness with which the waters rose prevented the attaches from making other connections. It was necessary to reach the valve in the basement if the hostelry was to have water for cooking, steam heat-

ing and other purposes.

George Savage, an expert diver, was telegraphed for. He arrived in the city from New York with diving apparatus, and, rigging up, went under the water and turned the valve. Other connections were made by the diver. After he had completed his work he fished Clerk Wil-liam Morse out of the water, into which he had fallen through a hole cut in the floor to allow the diver to get into the cellar. Morse had a close call from

death. The Anderson, Colonial, Lincoln and Annex hotels, in the flooded section, are

tonight lighted by candles, owing to the failure of private electric lighting plants. Killed Herself While Marooned. Clara Smith, the wife of Frank Carr, who was murdered on March 6, in his home in Allegheny, and for which crime the police are searching for "Peg Leg" Murphy, a

profssional beggar, was found dead in her

home today after the water had subsided.

The woman had committed suicide some time during the last three days while her home was surrounded with water.

The woman came here from St. Louis. She kept a boarding house in Allegheny, but following the killing of her husband all the boarders left her house. Last Tuesday night she threatened to take her life. Wednesday the high water surrounded the house and it is believed she killed her-self while temporarily insane from worry

and fear. 500 Refugees in School Houses. PORTSMOUTH, Ohlo, March 16.-By great effort railroad men under the direction of Superintendent Johnson of the Norfolk and Western railroad today repaired a break in the North End levee with caroads of ties, sand and cinders. Six school buildings are sheltering 500 refugees. The river has reached the 60-foot mark, and is still rising. Chillicothe street and the principal business thoroughfare is under feet of water for a distance of three quares, and other leading streets, which a few hours ago were scenes of spring open-ings, tonight present barricaded fronts and flooded floors. Water is on the Grand Opera

House floor and in the new Masonic Temple. 2.500 Flood Sufferers in Mining Town. COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 16. - Adjt. Gen. C. Richfield returned this afternoon from Glouster, Ohio, where he went at her. The police charge that a row ensued the request of Gov. Harris to investigate the flood situation. The adjutant general reported that he found about 2,500 flood sufferers in Glouster and other mining towns in the vicinity in urgent need of relief. He purchased supplies to the amount of \$1,000 at Glouster and turned

them over to the local relief committee for distribution. Many of the miners lost everything. the flood coming upon them so quickly that they were fortunate to escape with their lives. Many houses were washed away. A carload of supplies will be sent from Columbus tomorrow, the Columbus board of trade undertaking to furnish

Permission to Operate Plants Sunday. A number of manufacturers called on Superintendent of Police McQuaide tonight and asked permission to operate their plants Sunday. This permission was readily granted, the superintendent saying:

"There are periods when points should be stretched and the law shelved to some extent. This is one of the occasions, and I think it proper that such business be allowed to go on unmolested in these contingencies" tingencies." Over 100 churches in the towns surrounding Pittsburg are crippled, and no services will be held tomorrow. The trouble in a majority of the churches results from

high water.

The Belasco, Gayety, Alvin and Bljou theaters were opened tonight after being closed two nights.

### English Channel Tunnel. Paris Cor. London Telegraph. The indifference of the Paris public to-

ward the mercantile marine extends to the

channel tunnel question. There is abso-

lutely no agitation in its favor, and, what is just as significant, some of the leading French newspapers have, in dealing with the subject, candidly acknowledged the force of the objections to the project. This is all the more noteworthy as our French friends would distinctly be greater gain-ers than the English by such a work. The argument that the tunnel would help on the entente cordiale and that the rejection of the plan might create an unfavorable impression on this side of the water is quite beside the mark. The entente cordiale needs no such stimulus and it cannot pos-Muskingum is falling.

William McCracken, his wife and two children were drowned. They were forced to the second floor by the flood, and the swift current upset the house, the entire family being lost. The water today was two feet three inches lower than in 1884, but the damage will be greater, owing to the muddiness of the river. Many laborers have been thrown out of employment. Merchants and manufacturers are heave.

# ABIDE BY THE AWARD

Conclusion Reached by Labor Conferees Last Night.

MASTERS AND JOURNEYMEN

Disputed Points to Be Submitted for Interpretation.

STRIKE HOPED TO BE AVERTED

Controversy Over Recent Decision of Plumbers' Arbitration Board-

Adjustment is Assured.

The master plumbers and the journeymen of that trade must ablde absolutely and strictly by the terms of the recent award made by the board of arbitration, the members of which were selected by the two

factions of the trade controversy This emphatic decision was the outcome of a long conference last night between committees representing the two muster builders' associations and the allied building trades. The meeting was held in the Master Builders' Hall, 14th and G streets. and continued until nearly midnight.

The whole matter in controversy between the employing plumbers and the members of the Plumbers' Union were gone over in detail, and at the close of the conference it was stated on authority that if there had been any danger of a strike of the building trades, it had been averted, and there now no trouble in sight. In deciding that both sides should abide by the award of the arbitrators, a provise was added. It was that should either

of the parties to the present contention de clare that any part of the decision of the arbitration board is not clear to them—that is, if they do not understand the meaning of the award-they must reduce matter not understood to writing and submit it to the joint committee of the mas-ter builders and members of the allied building trades.

Contingency Provision.

Then, if in the judgment of the joint committee, a definition of the disputed matter cannot be reached in any other manner, the joint committee of master builders and mechanics will request the original arbitrators to meet and give their definition, this to be final. This was practically embodied in resolutions introduced by Chairman Ryan and adopted by the conference.

According to the statement of a member

of the joint committee there was distrust

of each other among the master plumbers

and the journeymen, and an attempt will be made to allay this feeling in the interest of harmony and for the good of all par ties concerned. The continued agitation of the supposition of a big strike of the build-ing trades was deplored as detrimental to the community, and the assurance was given that a strike will not take place because of any misconstruction of the recenaward. rior to the meeting last evening it was

said in certain quarters that the omnipres-ent "open shop" question would be one of the leading matters considered by the con-ferees. But it is said only once was the matter referred to, and then there was a quick quietus given to it by the promp statement that the conference was no called for the purpose of considering either the closed or the open shop, but to con-sider the controversy as to the definition of articles 5 and 6, and other portions of the

plumbing trade.

doors.

Will Not Tolerate Open Shop. It was asserted by the representatives of the building trades union, however, that the open shop would not be tolerated by them in the District, but especially in the

It was stated that another meeting of

the joint committee will be called if it is

decided to be necessary, but not other-wise; that the language of the award shall be defined for either the master or jour-neymen plumbers and the disputed matter put in writing. In order to facilitate the arrival at a conclusion with the least friction and confu-sion, it was decided also that the plumbers'

union shall submit its contentions in writ-ing to the committee of the allied building trades, while those of the master plumbers shall be submitted also in writing to the master builders. Following the final definition, whatever it may be, of the disputed points, it was the decision of the joint committee that the terms of the award be fully complied with by all parties concerned.

The seventeen building trades were represented at the conference. The jour-neymen plumbers were represented by

their business agent, Mr. Thos. J. Foley one of the master plumbers was present. it is said. The meeting was held behind closed

Result of a Row. William Williams, colored, alias Delaney, called upon Jennie Magruder, also colored. at her home, 14th and B streets southeast at a late hour last night and asked that he be permitted to see her. Jennie was not "at home." so far as William was concerned, but he entered the house and found her hand. Several women proceeded to eject William from the house, and when he reached the sidewalk he was in condition for hospital treatment. After his numerous bruises had ben dressed he was

locked up for alleged assault. Eliza Uses Brick as Weapon.

Martha Johnson, colored, forty years of age, whose home is at 702 Pleasant alley, was treated at the Emergency Hospital last night about 11 o'clock for two painful injuries to her head. It is alleged that she had a row with another colored woman named Eliza Coleman, and that the latter struck her with a brick. Martha refused to go to a hospital at the time she received the injuries, but later she suffered so much pain that she consented to go to the Emergency. The Coleman woman was ar-rested and charged with assault.

Boy Accidentally Shot.

While playing with a revolver at his home, 55 N street southeast, last night about 10 o'clock, James Branson, fifteen years of age, accidentally shot himself in the knee. The boy was taken to the Casualty Hospital in his father's wagon, and was able to return home after he had

Beer Bottle as Weapon.

Two residents of Virginia, Joseph R. Reynolds, fifty-two years of age, and Alvin Marcey, twenty-eight years of age, became involved in a row in Schroeder's saloon. 3326 M street, Georgetown, last night about 9 o'clock and a beer bottle was used as a weapon by one of the participants. The bottle landed against the head of Marcey with force enough to make him a subject for hospital treatment. Marcey, who lives at Rosslyn, was taken to the Georgetown University Hospital for treatment, and Reynolds, who is a resident of the county, was arrested on the charge of assault. Judge Mullowny will settle the trouble

when the men appear before him to

Gov. Hughes has issued a requisition at Albany upon the governor of Pennsylvania for the return to Brooklyn of Frank C. Marrin, a lawyer, accused of grand larceny